

DEATH STRUGGLE

ARMIES OF JAPAN AND RUSSIA
ENGAGED IN THE LAST BATTLE

FIGHT SO FAR IN FAVOR OF RUSSIANS

Most Critical Stage of the Battle Yet to Come—Loss of Men Will be Frig. Fully Large—The Japs Are Making a Desperate Struggle

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 1—(2 a. m.)—With the knowledge that the Russians and Japanese armies about Liao Yang are locked in a death struggle, the tension in St. Petersburg tonight is strained to the utmost. It is believed here that the fight cannot stop short of the crushing defeat of one side or the other.

All reports so far are favorable to the Russians, though the suspension of all news for many hours has been exceedingly trying, and has given rise to several rumors somewhat tempering the earlier enthusiasm.

The highest military authorities here consider that the most critical stage of the battle has not yet been reached and they believe that the fight may continue for some time before either side acknowledges defeat. This is an important consideration by the light of which to interpret any immediate news.

ST. PETERSBURG: A dispatch from Mukden, under date of August 30, says that in the stubbornly fought battle which has been in progress near Liao Yang since the morning of that day, all attempts of the Japanese to turn the Russian flank have been repulsed. It is said at Mukden that the Japanese lost more than ten guns, but details had not been received there.

The latest telegrams from the front state that the Japanese have 200 guns near Liao Yang.

Several telegrams from Lieutenant General Sakharoff were received during the day and forwarded to the emperor. They have not yet been published.

The great battle of Liao Yang, which began early yesterday morning, raged throughout the day with increasing intensity, but up to this hour no further official details beyond two brief telegrams given out in the afternoon have been received by the war office.

A Russian correspondent of the Associated Press supplies the following, under date of August 30:

"The historical moment has arrived and the battle of Liao Yang is in progress.

"It was not 6 o'clock this morning when the first gun was fired, but soon afterward hundreds of cannon were thundering along our southern and eastern fronts.

"The center of our position is located near the famous tower of Liao Yang, about seven miles to the southwest. The fighting there was of the most desperate character, but it is now going on nearer the flanks.

"The hissing of the shells is distinctly audible, and from the city it is easy to see the shells bursting.

"Heavy guns were brought into action by both sides today, and their dull roar was discernible above the sharper detonation of field and mountain guns.

"The Russians are using big ordnance, which is in position in the inner ring of the Liao Yang forts.

"The noisy Chinese population has suddenly become quiet. The main street of Liao Yang, always the scene of the business traffic and usually resounding with thousands of shrill voices from sunrise to sunset, is now as silent as if it were night.

ENLISTS FOR A FORTUNE

A Young Telegrapher Enters the Regular Army to Secure \$130,000
OKLAHOMA CITY: By the terms of a will of his late uncle, George O. Travis, an expert telegraph operator, and a young man of good character who had been earning \$90 a month, entered the recruiting office here to enlist in the regular army. Upon entering the recruiting station his first words were:

"I have to enlist to make a fortune." Rather strange words for a man going into the army as a private, but nevertheless true.

A fortune of \$130,000 was left to this man one month ago in Chicago, unencumbered, except for one clause, "that he shall serve at least one full term of not less than three years in the ranks of the United States army, at the expiration of which, if his discharge shall read: 'Service honest and faithful; character excellent,' and shall have reached the grade of a non-commissioned officer, and bring to the executors I herewith appoint a letter of commendation from the officer under whom he served, I bequeath to the said George O. Travis the sum of \$130,000, knowing that after such service he will have had enough experience of the world and disciplinary training to insure the proper disposal of what it has taken me a lifetime to accumulate."

This will was made by the late S. Houston, a resident of Chicago, who served during the civil war in the Fourth United States artillery and was attached to the secret service under General Baker.

Unable for several reasons to continue an army career, for which he was rarely fitted, Colonel Houston, having no sons of his own, was determined that his next of kin, his nephew, should become a soldier. As this was not possible until Mr. Travis had passed the age of 21 years, his entrance into the army was delayed until now.

In speaking of the matter, young Travis said: "It was not necessary for my uncle to make that clause in his will, which makes service in the United States army compulsory for me, as I have always intended to enter the army as soon as I was old enough, and I am determined to reach the top. General Chaffee, who is now at the head of the army, enlisted the same as I am doing now, and the chances were no better than now. I am coming out a colonel or a corpse."

CONTESTS IN PLENTY

Records in Lawton Land Office Show 33,013 Contests on Homesteads

LAWTON: Major H. D. McKnight, register of the United States land office in Lawton, has given out the following statistics of that office from the opening of the Kiowa and Comanche country, August 6, 1901, to date: In the Lawton district there are 6,500 homesteads. Of this number something like 500 were located in the Wichita mountains and in the sand bottoms of Red river, and no entries have ever been made on them.

To this date there have been 11,829 filings, or nearly twice as many as there are homesteads. The number of final proofs to date is 4,364, or a little more than half the number of homesteads. The number of applicants for final proof is 4,600. The number of contests to date is 33,013, or nearly five times as many as there were homesteads entries.

To Begin Work October 15

LEXINGTON: It is learned that actual construction on the interurban railroad from Oklahoma City to Sulphur will begin about October 15. An effort is being made to induce the officials of the company to turn the line at Paul's Valley and go direct to Sulphur, leaving Wynnewood and Davis off the line.

CLOSE THE ROLLS

BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE
DAWES COMMISSION

LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR ENROLLMENT

Books of Creek Division Closed September 1st—This Nation Was First to Receive Applications for Allotments and Last to Close

MUSKOGEE: September 1st the Creek division of the Dawes commission closed its books, and the last opportunity any Indian of the five civilized tribes will ever have for making application to get on the rolls and take an allotment passed.

The Creek land office was the first to take applications for enrollment and the last to close its books. The commission has long been trying to get them closed, but the interior department, on one pretext or another, kept them open. The enrollment divisions of all the other tribes have closed applications long ago. On the 25th day of last June an order was issued that on the first day of September there would be no more applications received at the Creek land office. On July 28 a list of more than 4,000 names was published by the commission representing the number of Creeks whose names appeared on old rolls, but could not be accounted for. Since that time there have been nearly 1,000 applications. Of these there will not be ten per cent who will ever be enrolled for allotment. There are in the Creek nation all together 3,779,094 acres. This was appraised by the Dawes commission at \$12,717,141.50, or more than an average of \$4.17 per acre. The appraised value represents about one-half the actual value of the land.

There are now on the rolls of the Creek nation 2,905 citizens by blood and 5,473 freedmen. In addition to these there are about 2,000 applications in that number which have not been passed upon. Not more than 200 of these, it is thought, will be able to get on the rolls.

The closing of the applications marks the beginning of the end of the work of the Dawes commission. All the Indians to whom land will be allotted are now either on the rolls or their applications are in and are being considered by the commission. All that is now left to be done is to allot these Indians their land and then dispose of the surplus acreage in the manner prescribed in the treaties for each nation. This work is now far under way. In the enrolling division there has been a mountain of work. Thousands upon thousands of applications have been made and rejected.

People have come from every state in the union to make an effort to get on the rolls. Every applicant was given a hearing, his testimony taken, transcribed, corrected and passed upon. Many of them had no legitimate claim to land, but under the law they were entitled to a hearing.

DEATH TO TYPHOID IN COPPER

Government Scientist Said to Have Found a Destroyer of the Germs

WASHINGTON: Those municipalities or other communities suffering from or threatened with the presence of typhoid germs in drinking water supplies should at once request the secretary of agriculture to render assistance. Dr. George T. Moore, physiologist, after an exhaustive investigation, found a remedy which destroyed the typhoid germs. It is a simple dilution of copper sulphate or of metallic copper, and has been used with marked success in several cities.

FINED NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

A Chicago Judge Declared 2,500 Druggists to be in Contempt of Court

CHICAGO: Twenty-five hundred retail druggists in the United States have been declared guilty of contempt of court by Judge Dunne of the circuit court, and the National Association of Retail Druggists, of which they are members, was fined \$2,000, while Thomas V. Wooten, secretary of the organization was fined, \$500. The cases against five wholesale druggists of Chicago, also charged with contempt, were continued until the fall term of court, when it will be necessary for them to take additional proof into court to purge them of the contempt charges.

The injunction under which the Druggists' association was fine was secured by Isaac Platt, a retail druggist of Chicago, in November, 1902, and restrained them from interfering in any manner with the securing of supplies by Platt, who had incurred the displeasure of the association, it was charged, because he would not join it.

"Platt has been deprived of the right in this community to sell his goods," Judge Dunne said in rendering his decision. "Nothing can be more clear. It is a combination that has prevented him from securing supplies, and this court enjoined the defendants in this case from carrying out their plan to prevent Platt from obtaining goods."

Platt charges that he has been blacklisted and boycotted by the association, and that, through its influence, all the wholesale houses of Chicago have refused to sell him supplies.

The association made its defense upon the plea that Platt was attempting to sell the goods at wholesale, thus cutting the prices. Platt has fought the association for two years in the courts, and it was charged during the progress of the trial that the association several times asked him to give up the fight and join the alleged combination, asserting that they would then cease to molest him.

TO SAVE FOREST TREES

Ardmore Physician Has Found a Remedy to Kill Beetles

ARDMORE: In the vicinity of Ardmore the fruit growers have been troubled to a great extent by trees dying. They attributed this to the dry weather, but upon further investigation it proved to be a small insect, about the size of the corn weevil, which bores into the bark of the trees and does its killing work between the bark and the body of the tree.

These insects are so numerous that when they attack a tree it will wilt, dry up and die in a few days.

Dr. C. C. McCoy, who resides here, after having lost a great number of trees, and being unable to determine the trouble or cause, began an investigation.

He noticed insects at work, caught one and sent it to the state entomologist of Texas. The entomologist examined it thoroughly and wrote Dr. McCoy that it was a beetle, but there was no way, so far as he knew, to destroy the insects.

Dr. McCoy then went to work to find a remedy that would destroy the beetle, without harming the tree, and, aided by his knowledge of medicine, he has discovered a remedy which will save to the fruit growers of the territory thousands of dollars each year, and he gives it to the world free. The following is his remedy:

Use soft concentrated lye soap, two gallons; sal soda, half a pound; Paris green, six ounces. Mix well and apply with a paint brush to the trunk and large limbs of the trees.

Any other insects that are harmful to trees can be disposed of with this remedy.